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**MAILED**

**JUN 20 2011**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 5,822,018  
Issue Date: October 13, 1998  
Application No. 08/626,733  
Filed: April 2, 1996  
Attorney Docket No.

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**ON PETITION**

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed June 9, 2011, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired on October 14, 2010, for failure to pay the eleven and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

As authorized the maintenance fee in the amount of \$4,110 and the surcharge fee of \$1,640 will be charged to petitioner's deposit account.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that the delay in paying the maintenance fee under 37 CFR 1.378(c) was intentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

The application file does not indicate a change of address has been filed in this case, although the address given on the petition differs from the address of record. A change of address should be filed in this case in accordance with MPEP 601.03. A courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the address noted on the petition. However, until otherwise instructed, all future correspondence regarding this application will be mailed solely to the address of record.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Kimberly Inabinet at (571) 272-4618.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

/Kimberly Inabinet/

Kimberly Inabinet  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions

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